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PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

To: FREE EUROPE COMMITTEE, INC.

Date: April 24, 1959

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To:

From: Richard S. Greenlee

I refer to the instructions which you gave me concerning steps to be taken to ease the financial cost to the Committee of returning exiles to Germany from the United States every two years for the purpose of renewal of reentry permits. The cost of this returnee program has been variously estimated at from \$100,000 to \$175,000 per year. It is expected that a large cost would be entailed next year since that is the two year anniversary of a large group who had previously been returned.

Under United States law, reentry permits can only be renewed for a maximum of two years and then the alien must return to the United States for purposes of an additional renewal. Under United States law, however, an alien whose reentry permit has expired may return to the United States without reference to quota by obtaining a special visa from the United States consul. In order to obtain such visa, the alien must submit to a physical examination and must not have been convicted of a crime of moral turpitude or be a security risk to the United States. While all of these requirements actually would be prerequisites to return under a reentry permit, as a practical matter, many persons who might not meet the requirements are able to return under reentry permits because the facts are not known.

The German Government has always been quite touchy with respect to the issuance of residence permits to exiles who are stateless and hold travel documents from countries other than Germany. (See attached report of recent meetings with German authorities.) In order to persuade the German authorities to permit exiles to stay in Germany after reentry permits have expired, we must be in a position to give assurance to those authorities that we will one way or another guarantee that the individuals will leave Germany at the end of their employment, provided that they are willing to leave. In other words, we must assure the Germans that in the event we evolve a new procedure to avoid bringing the exiles back every two years,

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such procedure will be at least as assuring to the Germans on this point as the present one.

Steps have been taken within the Executive Committee which, if finalized, would permit us to assure the German Government as follows:

1. Free Europe Committee, Inc. would absolutely guarantee that any exiles originally holding United States travel documents, working for FEC in Germany, will be transported out of Germany to any country, presumably the U.S., at the end of their employment. They cannot, of course, be forced by FEC to leave Germany against their will. While Germany at the present time has no deportation program for such cases, it may be that the German law in this respect may soon be changed.

2. In the event that the Germans wish that the guarantee of FEC be backed-up, we will be in a position to say that because the U.S. Government (State Department) has felt that the job done by FEC is a worthy job supplemental assurance may be obtained. In this respect, private discussions by the Ambassador could establish such assurance.

3. The basis for the ultimate guarantee is that all exiles would be able to return to the U.S. unless excludable by reason of disease, moral turpitude or internal security. The cases involving disease are covered through June 30 of this year by special law. There is reason to believe that this law will be extended. The other cases, provided that they do not exceed a certain number during the year, may be assured reentry by special act of the Head of the Executive Committee. This is pursuant to Section 8 of a special law covering the Executive Committee enacted in 1949. Mr. McEvoy can give you the specific references should you desire to read the exact language.

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The above has been submitted to the Chief of the Executive Committee for his written approval. On the assumption that this is given I will approach the proper authorities in Germany. In the event it is not given, we will explore other methods of handling the problem.

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att.

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